

MISCELLANEOUS.

WARS WITHOUT AND WITHIN.

BY REV. W. F. CRAFTS.

Wars and rumors of wars in Asia and Europe and our own commencing West suggest and illustrate the world-wide warfare in human souls, of which these are outpost battles. Recent news has called renewed attention to fighting and famine-stricken China, Britain's India, to the Greek Church and other institutions of Russia, the Mohammedan religion and other interests of Turkey, and especially to the fightings of every kind, from the ended brawls of a Morrissey and the secret drille of communists, to the perspective exploits of the Berdan range-finder and the anticipated wars of Europe. All these are but struggling eddies and restless whirlpools on the surface of the sea of life, while below there is the strong current of the incessant and boundless conflict in which all humanity is engaged—the battle of faith on the one hand against the world on the other; spiritual life against the world, the flesh and the devil, so notoriously personified in Restell with her lust of the flesh, and Tweed with his lust of the eye, and Morrissey with his pride of life.

If the world could be rid of these three evils, as New York has been of these three representatives of them in a single month, the millennium might be expected at once. The world, the flesh and the devil are no less real and dangerous enemies because they are for the most part unseen—evil tendencies within us, evil influences around us. A malaria is no less to be feared because it comes and goes as unseen as the wind that wafts it. A battery is only the more terrible for being hidden in an ambush. Sin within us and around us is a real and powerful foe. The Bible uses the right adjective when it bids us, "Come up to the help of the Lord against the mighty."

Paul is describing a warfare as real as that of Turks and Russians when he writes those battle scenes of the 7th of Romans: "I see a law in my members warring against the law of my mind." A little company of three-months' men, in the shape of transient efforts and resolutions, will never suppress the evil in us and around us. How many have heard say, as confidently as we spoke of suppressing the Rebellion in a month, or of Russia's conquering Turkey in a week, that they could give up an evil habit whenever they made up their minds to; they could stop smoking at any time when they thought it was hurting them; they could give up swearing as easily as, if they chose; they could let drink alone whenever they found it was getting too strong a hold of them. Did you ever know of a smoker trying as many as three times, or as long as three months, to give up smoking and then find his habit unsuppressed after his Bull Run and Ball's Bluff battles with it? Did you ever know a man to find months of battle necessary to suppress his appetite for strong drink, after he had crossed the Danube of the pledge with his red banner flying? Have we not found that the Constantinian pride can give us months of war to conquer it? So with covetousness, uncleanness, worldly fear, fretfulness, anger, impatience—the secret communists that meet and drill in the soul. Have we not learned that something more than feeble efforts are necessary to subdue their inward warfare against God's Spirit? Are not these battles real and important? Is it greater glory to take a city, or conquer a fire, or to face the cannon, than to rule the spirit in which these foes are entrenched, and conquer the sins to which our own natures tempt us, and the sins to which our surroundings incline us? Was there ever a greater battle than that of Christ in the wilderness, tempted of the devil?

The world, the flesh and the devil, then, are real foes, hard to overcome. With what force shall we attack them? "Good resolutions," says one. Hell is good resolutions, unkept. They are but hundred days' men, and this may be a life's struggle. Resolutions alone cannot conquer evil habits and evil thoughts. Resolutions are important as the Berdan instrument by which we get the range for our guns, but they cannot furnish powder, ball or fire. We ask again, With what shall we overcome the powers of evil? "Culture and moral precepts should be commanders in the battle," say the religious philosophers of liberalism. With these, they tell us we can "educate men up" to the noblest character, and save them from the dominions of passion and vice. But those who have followed this course most closely in our land have but slight success in saving men from sin, in uplifting men from vice.

A Unitarian Review says that the two great problems for their denomination to solve are, first, to find some motive power to continual action equal to the orthodox doctrine of eternal punishment for sin; and, second, it must find a form of truth that shall make God as near and helpful to the soul as the orthodox doctrine of the deity of Jesus. Culture and morality, handmaids of religion, have often been thus acknowledged by their most earnest advocates to lack some essential element of success apart from their mistress, and that element plainly is the power of the new life of faith in the soul. So in a longer trial of centuries in the old world, culture, even when reinforced by civil-service, reform, has not shown power enough to save its cultured China from terrible commercial, social and political corruption. True reform must strike deeper than culture can reach—into the heart. "No man does his duty

simply because he knows what his duty is." A moral and spiritual awakening must precede and accompany the intellectual. There must be religious dynamics as well as religious mechanics; force as well as precepts, a will to do as well as a way to do.

As statistics show that the bayonet and sabre are almost useless in war, only nine hundred and six wounds by these two weapons being reported in all our hospitals during the Rebellion out of more than two hundred and fifty thousand, so in the warfare against sin, culture is but a beautiful sabre and glistening bayonet to ornament the grand reviews, of little direct force in the rescue of men from vice. The long test of culture in India has resulted no better than in China. Its precepts, in that far day, were many of them refined and noble. These precepts are flaunted in our faces as proof that the people of India are almost Christians, ignoring the well-known fact that these ideas are only found on paper, and having no experimental life, have not kept the people from idolatry and sensuality. Put along-side the first precept of the Vedas this statement of a missionary: "Not one in a thousand of the people of India would in America be considered fit company for any decent woman." The Hindu mind is singularly pious, but also singularly immoral. It is capable at once of the loftiest thoughts and of the basest actions. Their religion is "faced paper," with no property in morality and character behind it, and before the world's common-sense it "goes to protest." Their theories are so completely bankrupt that they cannot pay even "ten cents on a dollar." These same explorers of the world in books, who shut their eyes to life, tell us of the excellent precepts of Mohammed in the Koran, and put it beside God's Word, as a general in this warfare against the world. Why will they forever ignore the fact that these precepts are a dead letter, and that prayers and vows, the Koran and dishonesty, bowings and thieves, are habitually mingled together? Bishop Thompson, after his trip in the East, says: "I expected to find the Mohammedans more upright than pagans, inasmuch as their creed is better; but I was assured by credible testimony that they are more profligate, licentious and cruel than their heathen neighbors."

Culture and moral precepts, then, are proved by multiplied and lengthened trials to be insufficient to overcome the world, the flesh and the devil, as they war with us in our hearts and lives. Like some of the generals in our late war, each of them is evidently incapable of being commander-in-chief, although it can be very efficiently assisted in some subordinate position. Christian faith must lead in this battle with self and sin, bringing to us the heavenly reinforcement of divine help, without which we cannot prevail; while culture and moral precept may command their appropriate divisions in the army, and do efficient service.

Religious forms, also, fail to overcome the world—the evils within and around us. Uniforms do not put them to flight, nor grand parades subdue them. Those Churches that punish heresy more severely than vice, and care more for a correct creed, as they call it, than a noble life—as is the case in the Roman and Greek Churches—utterly fail in giving men a power to overcome sin within and around them. In regard to the Romish Church, this is evident when we reflect that it produces to-day more criminals than salutes, and curses the ribbon temperance movements while it blesses the dishonorable Morrissey—an embodied malaria. The *Bagpipe*, a paper of Constantinople, gives the following dialogue as a representative, not of one man, but of the clergy generally in the Greek Church—the State Church of Russia. A man asks another, "Where is the grog-shop?" "There at the end of the street; but why do you ask?" "I want to find the priest." "You are right; go on, you will find him there." A Greek archbishop had been detected in an infamous crime. When charged with it, he denied it. But when confronted with the proof, he said, "If you examine my life, you will find much that is wrong; but if you examine my doctrine, you will find me orthodox. You can charge no Protestant heresies on me."

Religious forms and sacraments are valuable aides-de-camp and staff officers, but have no reforming power in themselves. Even in this age of invention we cannot be saved by machinery. The world, the flesh, and the devil cannot be overcome by the precepts or forms of any Christless Church. It must be a living, divine power that conquers them, the expulsive power of a new and pure affection. God sends the victor from heaven when every earthly power fails, the victor who conquers the Turk of intemperance and the communist of selfishness and all their allies. "This is the victory that overcometh the world, even our faith." Faith is not merely trusting God as a child trusts its parent's care through dark tunnels and dangerous journeys and daily wants, although this is a part of it. It is not merely taking God at His word, as the child who said, "God says he will, and that's enough for me," although that is one of its elements. It is not merely "leaning on Christ" as our rest and support, although true faith "leans hard" and always on Jesus' bosom. Faith is our whole spiritual life. It is "seeing" (realizing) the invisible, "counting" the invisible God and the immortal soul, and the inner life among its realities, the substance of things hoped for, and giving to these unseen realities our

supreme interest. This real, though invisible victor, faith, conquers the real though invisible foes, Satan's "triple alliance"—"the world, the flesh and the devil." Faith is heaven's "range-finder," by which the powers of evil are to be completely overcome. The blue and red ribbons wave to-day over many a hard-fought soul battle-field, where faith has overcome the flesh in its mightiest appetites. As defaulting treasurers and corrupt congressmen lessen our confidence in men, victories on every hand add to our reliance upon faith, the victor that never loses a battle. As I think of men trying to be victorious in some other way than by the believing obedience of faith, I try to imagine how it would have been if the Israelites, when they found themselves with mountains on either hand, the Egyptian army thundering in their rear, and the Red Sea confronting them, had disregarded God's command, "Go forward," because it seemed to be only to march into the sea, and had instead tried to climb the mountains or fight the Egyptians. They would have been not conquerors, but conquered. Hard climbing and hard fighting would not have saved them from defeat and death.

"By faith" they conquered as they obeyed and trusted God. So in our battles with the evil "desires of the flesh and of the mind," we may battle earnestly in our own strength and resolution, and utterly fail. There is no assurance of victory except in the path of obedience and faith. In that path we can sing, "The Lord hath triumphed gloriously." "Who is he that overcometh the world but he that believeth that Jesus is the Son of God?"

THE YELLOW FEVER IN CHATTANOOGA.

It was imported, as is always the case. About the middle of August a refugee from Memphis came to our city. In a few days the fever developed and she died. The physicians ordered her clothing burned and the house disinfected. No other member of the household had it. It is said the physicians' directions respecting the burning of the clothes were not followed out, and they fell into the hands of some poor women. In about two weeks a woman and child living a few blocks from the refugee died suddenly. Most of the physicians called it malarial fever, as the house was in a low, unhealthy section, but some said it was yellow fever; and such it was, for nearly every member of the family have since died, and it is reported that some of the refugee's clothing was found in their possession, and that it has been one of the centres from which the disease has spread.

Eight or ten days later a child in another ward, some distance from the above case, was reported sick of malarial fever. It died, and a public funeral was held in the church. The parents were stricken, and the mother died also. During these days physicians and many citizens were continually saying this was not yellow fever, and we could not possibly have an epidemic in Chattanooga. One of our policemen was sick with the same disease, and the public were becoming very uneasy. Many had already left; others had all arrangements made, and the admission was forced upon all that we had yellow fever among the citizens. Then followed the panic, and people were moving in every direction and by every means of conveyance.

Of all the stricken cities, Chattanooga is most favorably situated to allow its citizens to scatter. And this is the only means of safety—depopulation. It is surrounded with ridges and mountains on every side ranging in altitude from twelve to sixteen hundred feet higher than the city, and so near that the poor can walk, carrying their packs with them. Then by rail this whole section of mountainous country is open to us. Lookout Mountain being only four miles from the city, is the nearest point, and has the largest number of buildings. It has, therefore, the largest number of refugees of any one place. Although two thousand feet above tide-water, the disease has slain its victims even here, but as yet no person has taken it on the mountain from those who have brought it here, and we feel quite safe.

This is a disease of terrible mystery, so much so that although it has been visiting our sea-board cities, both North and South, for more than a century, its present workings have overthrown most of the past theories, and physicians seem to know but little of its secret workings, and are powerless before its deadly march. But still it is a disease that must be studied. We believe that the only safety is in flight, and that the only means of checking it is by depopulation or by frost. But it has worked so differently and spread so far in this epidemic, that the question has been asked, "What if the frosts do not kill it?"

There are causes and conditions which have, doubtless, given it a hold upon our city which may be removed in the future; and this is true of the whole infected districts. Will the country which has responded so liberally to cries for aid, hold us guiltless if these causes are not removed? At first the disease confined itself to that part of the city through which the cholera passed a few years since. This is a low, malarial district, made so by the want of drainage and accumulation of filth; but every foot of this district can be made perfectly dry, clean and healthy, if the city will adopt and carry out a proper system of sewerage and require a proper disposition of all filth. In ordinary times Chattanooga is the healthiest city in which we have

ever lived, and on account of its general health, these conditions, which in other places would be continued breeders of disease, have been neglected. Chattanooga, having great confidence in her security against an epidemic, out of true human sympathy, kept her doors wide open for all refugees from every quarter, offering them her hotels, boarding-houses and private residences for homes. This was kind, but it was a mistake. If they did not wish to quarantine, they ought to have furnished separate quarters and compelled refugees to occupy them.

The present epidemic has taught us that no city or town is proof against its spread, if it is once introduced. One yellow-fever death would sow the seed which would infect the whole of Boston or New York, as well as New Orleans, only give it heat and filth to begin with, and time to work in. We have learned that either a strict quarantine or a refugee camp, in which all coming from infected districts must abide until danger is past, is a duty a city owes to its own citizens; that to prevent the worst, a city must at first prepare for the worst.

There have been about four hundred cases, nearly one hundred and fifty of which have resulted fatally. Death has had no respect to class or office, taking not only the lower classes of society, but entering every profession and the ranks of city officers and carrying them swiftly to the grave. The sufferings will be prolonged, for after the fever leaves, there will be the desolate homes, and many must suffer unless assistance be given. We have had two or three frosts, but the disease is not yet killed. The morning paper reports three new cases and four deaths.

We remained in the city for nearly three weeks until all religious services were suspended, and then accepted an invitation to take up our abode with a member of our Church who resides on the mountain. Here we shall remain until all danger is past. We have tried to aid the relief committee by soliciting aid by letter for the sufferers, in answer to which there have been some liberal responses. If any of the readers of the HERALD wish to contribute, we assure them that the donation, however small, will be judiciously used.

S. A. WINSON.

Lookout Mt., Chattanooga, Tenn.

CORRESPONDENCE.

FROM INDIANA.

The biennial election of Indiana is over, and the results, so far as figures are concerned, have just been published, though the question of possession of office is yet uncertain; for to an extent never before known, the defeated on the count are resorting to every conceivable plea for contesting the seats of the more successful. The aggregate vote this time was 415,000, being about 20,000 less than two years ago. This is not an unusual shrinkage for an off year, and goes to show that a great many people do not care to vote when there is little at stake but the possession of the local offices, as was the case this year.

I suppose that it is impossible for men not on the ground, as well as for men on the ground, to draw just inferences from such a vote as to the strength of any question that may be more or less involved in the election; hence it is not strange that Eastern men, even editors sometimes, mistake the significance of such an election. Of course a strict analysis of such a vote is impossible, but I would say that the popular inference that this is a vote for "honest money" is in the sense that phrase is used in the East, is utterly fallacious. Of the 415,000 who voted this year in Indiana, 10,000, if the half of it, mean by "honest money" the gold standard of value. The truth is, the Western people are utterly demoralized upon the money question. About ten years ago Senator Morton of Indiana, Senator Sherman of Ohio (now Secretary Sherman), and many others taught in the Senate and on the stump that all the bonds not specifically payable in coin might be paid in greenbacks, at the pleasure of the government, whenever they became due.

The people, without distinction of party, accepted this as sound doctrine, the only difference being that as a rule the Republicans meant to use only the \$400,000,000 of greenbacks already in existence, as far as they would go, while the Democrats meant to issue new greenbacks enough to take up all the bonds then bearing interest. When, nine years ago, Congress declared that the government meant to pay in coin, it produced a flutter, and became a policy against the Republican party, though it was urged that by the time of payment greenbacks and coin would be of equal value. Later, when it was enacted that gold was to be the only coin, a wild excitement pervaded the entire country, and the restoration of the standard silver dollar to its former place was demanded, not one in a hundred of any party defending the gold standard. Unfortunately the few who advocated the gold standard used words of reproach against those who argued that if 4124 grains of silver were a dollar when the debt was contracted, it ought to be yet. The argument was a plausible one, and the report was not always counted, making a breach between neighbors that ought not to be, and widening the gulf between the debtor and the creditor, as it usually happened that the advocate of the gold standard was a creditor.

Practically the people of the West are a unit on the proposition originally stated by Morton, Sherman and others. There are many shades of opinion, however, upon the details, and these are not affected by party lines. Perhaps a very large majority of the voters are in favor of making the greenbacks convertible into coin, and then using them or coin in the payment of all debts, public or private. Then comes the question, Shall we keep the \$400,000,000 afloat, or shall we use only those now afloat? A clear majority is in favor of the former, which implies a re-issue of the \$50,000,000 which have been retired, while perhaps one-fourth of the voters are in favor of the wild scheme of issuing enough promises to pay (greenbacks), to take up all the bonds now bearing interest; while the flat crum of making absolute dollars out of paper cannot number five thousand outside of that class of men who ignore all obligations to pay debts. The election just had does not, therefore, indicate anything except that the Democratic party has succeeded in holding the Republican party responsible for the hard times, by charging everything—grasshoppers, floods, fire and yellow fever—

to the bad management of the finances of the country by the party in power. The vote against the Republicans on this ground is overwhelming. What is to come of it remains to be seen. Perhaps, as things now look, the division of parties will be on geographical lines, not on old issues or new.

The wave of depreciated values, which struck New England four or five years ago, came to my knowledge lately to this effect. A man had \$5,000 in government bonds, nine years ago. He sold them, and invested the proceeds in Western securities. Those securities now aggregate more than \$20,000, with hardly a possibility that he can suffer ten per cent. loss in the final conclusion. Yet he may suffer some loss, he feels that he has been badly dealt with, though with \$15,000 he can buy more real estate or dry goods in Boston to-day than he could have bought with \$5,000 nine years ago. This is not an exceptional case, and I may be permitted to add that it is this animus upon the part of some creditors which has given us our chief trouble with that class of bondholders who threaten us with some form of repudiation or other. While the purchasing power of a dollar is more than doubled, they think they are greatly wronged if they suffer any diminution of the number of dollars they receive, although it takes the whole farm to pay what bought less than half the farm ten years ago.

But I began to write about politics, that is, about the financial question as mixed with our late election. What it will be two years hence we cannot tell. We had easy sailing while we could lay our troubles at the door of the New England party and say it was contraction of the currency; but now that we have more currency than ever, this argument fails us. We were sure that it was the Republican party that closed so many factories and shops and broke so many banks, but now that the banks of Scotland and England, and the factories of the old countries, are all demoralized, we are worse perplexed than ever. Of course somebody is to blame.

T. A. GOODWIN.

MAINE.

LEWISTON DISTRICT.

Four continuous weeks of camp-meeting service so engaged my time that I somewhat neglected my diary. Closing one meeting at early morning of Monday, and riding in carriage forty miles to commence another the same evening, gave but little time for meditation, much less for writing. Sixty-three converts were the fruits of religious faith and toil, as also a general quickening of the Churches and reclamation of many who had grown cold in their first love. The camp-meeting committees of Richmond, Poland, Livermore, and Anson were capable and efficient, rendering efficient aid to the Presiding Elder in the advancement of all the interests of the district. My ride from Livermore to Anson was the hardest of any of my 1,200 miles of carriage-travel. On my way I stopped at an old house in Stark on the west side of the Kennebec, where Jesse Lee presided eighty years ago.

My quarterly meeting at Mercer was a season of general interest and profit. Bro. Whitten, the pastor, was a few years since a Presiding Elder in the South Carolina Conference, but the attractions of Maine were too strong for him to remain there. Kent's Hill, his last pastorate, received my next visit, which was one of real pleasure and interest to me. The pastor, Brother Munger, enjoys his appointment very much, as the classical ground affords great opportunities for the scope of his powers. Richmond, Augusta and Hallowell were all cordially received by me, and the several pastors rendered to me an appreciation very congenial to my feelings.

Leviston, with her two hundred workmen, gave me opportunity for a day's hard work of pleasant service. Hammond Street Church honored the Presiding Elder by a very pleasant reception and supper in the vestry of the church. The ministers of both Churches are young men, able and zealous, and doing a great and blessed work in the Master's service.

Buckfield—a gem of a village among the hills—was a very excellent people. Methodism is highly prized by many in that section. Oxford.—In days past Methodism had a strong hold here, but death and removals, without a corresponding increase, have very seriously affected the religious interests of the Methodist society. Hon. J. P. Perry used to be the moving spirit in this place, especially in all matters pertaining to Methodism. But his removal very much weakened the little flock, though there are remaining some zealous, self-denying men and women who with their pastor, Brother Barbour, are striving for a progression of religious interest.

Winchell, connected with Oxford, was also very seriously suffered in the death of one of their noblest supporters, Brother George W. King, and also in the removal of several of his family. Brother William E. Dodge, now in government employ, makes this place the residence of his family, and aids financially in the support of Methodism, and also spiritually when at home.

Mechanic Falls.—The pleasant working spot of one of our rising young men. The religious interest is good, and conversions are of frequent occurrence. The quarterly meeting was very pleasant and profitable. Woodstock, embraced in Paris charge, I found in a revival state and a protracted meeting appointed. I labored with harmony and pleasure with the young and ambitious brother who has charge, but duty called me away ere the results of the protracted efforts were known.

Rumford—my first field of toil and sacrifice in the Maine Conference thirty-six years ago. Strange delights came to my mind as I rode over the places of former years, and recounted the scenes of real soul pleasure; for right here I saw hundreds converted. Over 300 were converted, and 247 joined the Church, and some were living to greet me and talk over by-gone days. But the meeting-houses had been replaced by new ones, or removed to suit modern taste, so that much of my anticipated enjoyment was lost.

Norway next claimed my attention. I found all things in readiness for a pleasant quarterly meeting, which has just closed. Brother Charles Bibeau, of Bethel, rendered valuable service. Eleven were baptized—three by immersion and eight by sprinkling, and two rose for prayers in the evening

God's blessing is upon his young servant in this place, and 27 have been converted under his labors the past Conference year.

Umbagog Lake.—I ought to call for benedictions upon the former wisdom of those who took the insignificant places of Bath, Brunswick, etc., from Lewiston street, and gave in return this magnificent portion of mountain, hill and dale, river, lake and pond. Of all my travel thus far, amounting to 1,383 miles since May, in my carriage, this is the most attractive and grand of all nature's scenery. After a very pleasant quarterly meeting at Bethel, I left, on Monday morning, for my most northern appointment.

Upton and Erroll is the name of this charge in the Methodist Ministry, and we have sixteen members in Upton and a few in Erroll, N. H. A brother by the name of Moulton has just commenced religious work here.

Gorham, N. H.—One of our rural city appointments, in a delightful location, with a fine church edifice—an appointment, which though away from country, any young man might feel himself particularly favored to receive. The present occupant lives in the affections of the people, who heartily co-operate with him in carrying on the good work.

Mason.—A little oblong town between Stoneham and Fryeburg Academy grant, was my last appointment for October, making 1,456 miles travel in my carriage since Conference session at Farmington. I have preached 123 times, attended 88 love-feasts, with an equal observance of the Lord's Supper, 72 prayer-meetings, four camp-meetings, dedicated two houses of worship, and baptized eleven persons. My salary has been reasonable, amounting to \$466, and everywhere I have received distinguished marks of respect and attention. I have not had a leisure day or a dull hour since Conference, and this department of the itinerancy is beneficial to my health. I enter upon my second round of duties with joy and zeal.

C. C. M.

CONNECTICUT.

Greenville.—The Lord has greatly encouraged the Methodist Ministry in Greenville this Conference year. During the three previous years only one was added to the Church, and forty-three withdrew or took leave. Eight have died, and thirty-six were left on the records for the present year, some of whom were so discouraged that they decided not to attend meetings any more, and said they never wanted to see another Methodist preacher. Added to this, unfavorable state of things were two debts against the Church—one for money borrowed of one of the brethren to pay a minister, on which the interest had not been paid for several years, thus causing great dissatisfaction and feeling among the people; the other due one of our savings banks, with back interest on that and the insurance on the house unpaid, with the prospect of having to sell the property to pay the debts. But in answer to prayer, and as a result of patient, trustful and self-denying effort, the blessing of God has been resting on the people. It is but just to add that "Father Bentley" gave more than one quarter of the amount raised for the payment of the church debt.

Our Book Table.

POINTED PAPERS FOR CHRISTIAN LIFE, by Theodore L. Cuyler. Robert Carter & Brothers, New York. 12mo, price \$1.50. For sale in Boston by J. P. Mayes. Dr. Cuyler has no peer in his short spiritual essays. They have the holy sweetness, often of Rutherford, and are at the same time as lively and attractive as the essays of Charles Lamb. His contributions to our religious literature, in periodicals and books, are only next to his pulpit ministrations in practical usefulness, and have a much wider field of influence. His works are republished in England, and thus his circle is made world-wide.

From the same house we have *EVENING AT BETHEL*, by J. R. Macduff, D. D. 12mo, 261 pp. From the pen of another charming literary writer we have a happy and enlarged interpretation and application of Jacob's memorable night at Bethel, and the truths that are to be gleaned from its divine revelations. It is a precious book for Sabbath reading.

The same publishers issue *MARGERY'S SON*; or, *Until He Find It*. A Fifteenth Century Tale of the Court of Scotland. By Emily Sarah Holt. In a graphic story, true to historical facts, the authors give a lively picture of the times at the dawn of the Reformation, political, social and religious—one of the best of the modern forms of religious stories.

The Carter issue, also, from the pen of the author of "The Wide World," *THE BROKEN WALLS OF JERUSALEM, AND THE REBUILDING OF THEM*. This is a continuation of the author's Biblical series, and gives, in a simple and forcible form for young readers, the story, with illustrations from all sources, of the return of the Jews from Babylon and the restoration of Jerusalem. The book is one of the most whole, as well as attractive, of Sunday-school books.

From this house we have, also, *HELP HEAVENWARD*, by Octavius Winslow, D.D., and *SHORT PAPERS FOR FAMILY READING*—two handsome miniature volumes for gifts, and for hours of religious meditation. The first is a refreshing treatise upon the Christian's prospects beyond the veil, and his inspirations upon his journey thither. The latter is a collection of spiritual papers, from such pens as James Hamilton, Dean Stanley, Thomas Binney, Dr. Pauson, and Rev. J. R. Macduff.

THE STORY OF LIBERTY, by Charles Arleston Coffin. Illustrated. New York: Harper & Brothers. For sale in Boston by Lee & Shepard. Royal octavo, 404 pp. This is one of the best, as it is one of the hand-somest of volumes for our young people. The author's name is an adequate guarantee for the vivacity of its style. It tells the story of the growth of civil and religious liberty from the hour of the signing of the Magna Charta by King John, down to the establishment of Plymouth colony. All the chief European events, forming signal marks of human progress, whether brought about by battle, by discovery, by suffering and martyrdom, or by the invention of important arts, are here recorded, not simply as a progressive history; but the various incidents are separately, fully and dramatically set forth in a manner to fascinate the young, and we can vouch for a similar effect in the reading upon one quite mature matron in a family. The illustrations, which are profuse, are equally striking and effective. Altogether, the volume will form a favorite and most wholesome gift for young people during the coming holidays.

FOR TRY NAME'S SAKE, and Other Poems, by Millicent Collette. This little volume of poetry is embellished with a portrait of the young author, and twenty-six pages are devoted to a sketch of her life. She was the daughter of J. W. Colcord, esq., of Portland, former editor of *Zion's Advocate*, and but little over eighteen years of age at the time of her death. The poems breathe a deeply-devotional spirit, and for no young evening a remarkable poet.

talent. Published by Hoyt, Fogg & Donham, Portland, Me.

THE BIBLE OF TO-DAY; A Course of Lectures, by John W. Chadwick. New York: G. P. Putnam's Sons. The eloquent poet preacher of the Second Unitarian Church in Brooklyn, N. Y., presented to his people, in these lectures, now very handsomely published by the Putnam Sons, the Bible of our fathers as it is left after being submitted to the destructive criticism of Rénan, Muir, Strauss, Baur, the Tübingen School, Kuenen, Colenso, Goldziher, Vort, Davidson, and others of the same class. What is left seems hardly worth embalmment in religious affection. The Old Testament, in the estimation of Mr. Chadwick, has "no supernatural revelation." It is an evolution, step by step, from small and poor beginnings to such conclusions as are still remote. From Fetichism and nature-worship up to the final heart of Jesus! As he concludes his work, following the same teachers in the New Testament, profoundly unconscious of the responses of orthodox Biblical critics, he frankly says, "Some that set out with me have fainting by the way [we do not wonder]. Others have kept company from first to last." These critics, who are the authorities of the Brooklyn minister, have had their volumes for half a generation before the thoughtful world, but the great body of Christian scholarship still holds its unyielding position as to the supernatural revelations of the Bible, while the great world's book, itself, enjoys a constantly-increasing distribution and reverence. No one critic except the position of another; they mutually destroy each other, and only harmonize in their common rejection of the divine inspiration of the Holy Scriptures. After Mr. Chadwick has broken the light of the Bible, what lantern will he place in the hands of his young men as a light to their paths?

Charles Scribner's Sons publish a very new edition of *PRINCIPLES OF THE HISTORY OF HIS WIFE, HIS SISTERS AND OTHERS*, from 1844 to 1870. Translated from the German by H. A. Jones & Co. For sale in Boston by H. A. Jones & Co. This very interesting little volume places the great German statesman in a new light before American readers. He is the same clear-headed, calm thinker, never falling, even in familiar domestic correspondence, to throw light upon current national and international politics, and some of the most charming stories from a pen that has already won a permanent reputation, are here given, adapted to the apprehension and enjoyment of the youngest, making a very beautiful and delightful Christmas gift.

Roberts & Brothers have issued another little volume from the bright and child-loving pen of Miss L. M. Alcott. It is entitled, *UNDER THE LILACS*, and records the remarkable and amusing process of civilizing and "domesticating" a little society of children, charming stories from a pen that has already won a permanent reputation, are here given, adapted to the apprehension and enjoyment of the youngest, making a very beautiful and delightful Christmas gift.

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A. S. Barnes & Co. publish *FOURTEEN YEARS AT FREETOWN*, by J. Dorman Steele, Ph.D., F. G. S. We are pleased with this text-book. It is well adapted to high schools and academies. Its arrangement is clear, its progress of lessons natural, and it comprises very satisfactorily the rudiments of an important academic study. We commend the new book, which is finely published and illustrated, to our educators.

The very interesting and suggestive essays of Charles F. Thwing upon our colleges, their discipline, and moral condition, in *Scribner's Monthly* and the *Sunday Evening Star*, have been collected by G. P. Putnam's Sons into a neat little volume, entitled, *AMERICAN COLLEGES; Their Students and Work*. The author has prepared an interesting introduction upon the modern progress of two or three of our chief colleges, and introduced new chapters upon College Societies and Athletics, and Health. The whole makes a very valuable and useful manual, full of important statistics and suggestions to the friends of public education and the curators of our numerous colleges.

Mr. M. F. Sweetser's last Artist Biography is that of Turner (Joseph Mallord William Turner). It is an interesting, but a sad picture. Turner was a strange combination of attractive and forbidding qualities. He was narrow, coarse, selfish, avaricious, sensual, and almost brutal, and he was also generous, tender, noble, patriotic, and a marvelous painter of ideal nature. You hardly know, as you read, whether to despise, or to pity, or to admire the man; you must respect the artist. The book is a study in the life of the man, and is written with melancholy interest by the admirers of Ruskin, his worshiper, and the artist himself.

The National Temperance Society, New York, has done a good service in publishing two series of *TEMPERANCE READINGS AND RECITATIONS*, in prose and verse, edited by Miss L. Penney, for schools, concerts and public readings. The selections are varied, serious, pathetic and humorous. The compilations will be appreciated, and will find an important want in this great field of reform.

Lee & Shepard, in anticipation of the holidays, add to their juvenile list of handsomely illustrated books, *THE BURNING OF THE CRUISE OF THE SYLVANIA*, by Oliver Optic. The story is a characteristic illustration of possible incidents and enjoyments in a yacht cruise among the great lakes. It is full enough of adventure, and carries its moral lessons as a wholesome counter-irritant with its stirring incidents. *LAUREL BOYS*; or, *Charles and Nabe in the High Hall Garden*. Written by T. W. Higginson, and illustrated by W. T. Giff. The *Vox Humana* for November is received. It contains the usual amount of reading matter and the following music: *Secret Love*, A Dream of Spring, Sounds of Childhood, and Pure as Snow. A. Williams & Co.

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1. The first step is to identify the problem or question that needs to be answered. This involves understanding the context and the specific requirements of the task.

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36 Bromfield Street, Boston.

The Family.

REST.

BY REV. N. W. JORDAN.

Tears dim my eyes, my way-worn feet are tired,
My soul oppressed;
With longing heart I seek the vale desired,
Where I may rest.

Be patient, heart! thy path may cross a waste
Of barren sand,
But thou art nearing still with eager haste
The promised land.

Sometimes His chastisements are hard to bear,
But He knows best;
And so I try to breathe a trustful prayer
For rest, for rest.

Thank God! the weary race will soon be run,
Adown the west
Mid radiant clouds descends life's setting sun—
Soon I will rest.

Kearz Falls, Me.

THE OLD MEETING-HOUSE.

BY JENNY BURN.

It stood by the dusty road and near the village "store," a small, dingy place, much haunted by idle men and boys who told stories and talked politics while they smoked tobacco and ate dried herring. It was a small, wooden building, painted white, with a "steeple" on front, supported by several pillars, and a modest steeple at the top. Rigidly plain as it was, and almost profane in its surroundings, yet a kind of sanctity reigned in it and an impressiveness which nothing could quite overcome. A good deal more terror than tenderness was associated with it, though there were not many alarming sermons preached from its pulpit, and the minister had a round, good-natured face not calculated to inspire fear. It must have been his voice which was so forbidding. It was a slow, deep voice, which seemed to proceed from a cavern or some underground region. What the voice said, I have totally forgotten. It rumbled monotonously through the long sermon, bearing nothing to the heart of a child but its own sound, and afterwards hollow, empty echoes.

For so small a church the bell was an uncommonly good one. It was mellow-toned and deep, and was never made ridiculous by those faint, far-away sounds which on certain Sundays were audible from the church-bells of the town four miles off. Those distant chiming could not have been more suggestive if they had come from the skies. I remember the strange, vague emotions they excited—a certain wild restlessness mixed with a sharp passion of regret. The life of the town and the world was in them strangely blended with the Sabbath solemnity and peace.

On the way to the meeting-house these vagrant fancies were pretty well put to flight by the clangor of the bell in the steeple. At sight of the people assembling for worship, a kind of trepidation seized me, which the loud peals from above magnified, so that on mounting the steps, each stroke gave me a violent blow, the crushing effect of which it seemed certain the people must observe.

This was a good deal better than to be late. There was something awful in the silence which followed the bell-ringing, and in that creak of the iron-handled door which usually accompanied the opening of it. I am afraid a good deal of time was often wasted in peeping through the key-hole, out of sheer dread of going in. Once inside, it was indeed actually dizzying to meet the united gaze of several dozens of people, especially to a child conscious of an old dress and unfashionable bonnet. The momentary relief of hiding behind the stairs was followed by the worse trial of having one's head appear above the last one in full view of the choir and the side galleries. This terror made walking to a seat a wholly mechanical operation, and it did without tripping, was matter for fervent thinking.

It is probable the builders of Puritan meeting-houses never stopped while building to reflect upon the difficulty a child would find to be reverential. The moral power radiating from the high pulpit and the square pews needed to be strong when pine floors were bare, and white walls stared so blankly in the worshiper's face. This meeting-house was not only intensely plain, but neglected. The green paper shades at the small-paned windows were in a dilapidated state; the cushions of the seats were faded and homely; the two grim stoves on each side of the door were rust-eaten, and the stove-pipes which went wandering into the galleries over one's head in comical zigzags had decorated that end of the wall where they stopped with absurd streaks and patches of dirty yellow. From always having been there, those uncouth frescoes became a part of the building, as inseparable from it as the Bible on the desk of the pulpit or that round, uncomfortable edge of wood which topped all the seats. Finally there came a day of speculation as to their origin. It is curious to remember the dawn of this idea out of an impression formed by such an aggregate of long Sundays—a life-time of eight summers.

In this small meeting-house the men and women had each their own side of the house—a custom pretty rigidly adhered to except in the case of a solitary couple. In spite of this exception, on a certain Sunday afternoon when a young man from the next town marched

up the woman's aisle with his wife, a far greater stir was created in the assembly than could be accounted for by the smart clothes they wore. The rustic of the lady's silk called attention more to her husband's darning than to its own richness. As for him, his bearing was so proud, he somehow made me think of an emperor.

As he turned out to be only a dry-goods merchant, the little congregation must have been very rustic in aspect. There were a few who essayed to wear fine clothes, and a bright red shawl now and then enlivened the grave interior. Hoods were worn by women and girls in winter, and the boys had brilliant scarfs wound around their necks. Occasionally a woman brought a foot-stove, which was passed along the seat from one member of the family to another. At least half the people brought their luncheon, which they privately ate in their pews at noon-time. To children this was the most delightful part of the service, though there was something trying in revealing one's bread and doughnuts to curious observers, and the most sequestered corner of the gallery was often chosen for this repast.

It is interesting now to recall the faces that used to gather in that queer little sanctuary. In the light of reflection and of their characters and conduct, some of them are as odd as any thing in Dickens or Balzac. They only needed a chronicle to make them famous.

There was one family of children, all of whom had large, wild eyes, and a certain infantine expression about the mouth. They looked like innocent, timid little souls who had strayed into a world they were unfitted for. As it was, they were the naughtiest of all the naughty school-children. Where did they get that primitive, unworried look? There was another family, marked by good, strong features, fair complexion and blue eyes, who almost invariably slept through the service. This habit they must have inherited from their father, whose head in church time seemed always nodding, though he was a thin, spare man, rather choleric than otherwise in his temperament. This tendency in the children was as inveterate as a teasing propensity which characterized them, and made them disagreeable companions.

Among the mature countenances was a dark-eyed, melancholy face which more than anything expressed brooding and reflection, a mental separateness from things external. It belonged to a woman, poor, but proud-spirited, of a certain position and shows, whose eyes caught every detail of dress and manner in a twinkling.

There was one very old man who on fine Sundays sat leaning forward on his staff, and looking up to the minister with the curious, vacant expression of second childhood. His hair was like the driven snow; he was so infinitely old that the possibility of becoming as old himself was destroyed, and I regarded him with that absolute wonder which we feel for everything outside of our own experience. If he had been five years younger, old age would have seemed possible.

Among the occasional worshippers was an old woman of seventy-five years, with restless eyes and manner, whose feelings often got the better of the proprieties of the occasion. At home and among the neighbors, she seemed an intensely practical, unemotional body. She was an inveterate talker; she had a passion for high colors, and in extreme age often appeared in a red gown. In all ordinary life she was a sociable, prosaic old creature, not given to vagaries; but when the minister began to warm up in his discourse, a curious excitement seized her; she trembled violently, and panted for breath; she began to proclaim her faith to the assembly in mutterings and exclamations. Her restless eyes wandered vaguely over the room, and she seemed unconscious of surroundings. When the attack had subsided, she was as bright and keenly observant as ever, but the effect upon the childish mind, at least, was far longer-lived, and she was regarded as a kind of witch. To the villagers who knew the old woman well, these strange behaviors made her an oddity to be gossiped about at tea-drinkings and by winter evening fires, but they were relieved against as sad a background of experience as often falls to the human lot.

Years before she had lost a very bright, promising son by sudden sickness—her pride and hope; her husband had for years been addicted to drink, and had made home uncomfortable by almost daily intoxication. Naturally a witty, kind-hearted man, his reason had at last given way under self-indulgence, and he became thoroughly insane. Her only surviving child was a now middle-aged, half-idiot son who had followed his father's example, and had been all his life only a curse to the mother who bore him. For years the old woman cared for the miserable pair, with little companionship but theirs, and suffering the social isolation of old age and unlikeliness to other people. A weirdness haunted the gables of the old red house standing lonely in the shadow of tall maples above the road. After the death of her husband, the venerable woman still sat by the fire-place where she began her young married life, and in her pathetic way cap moved through the empty rooms of the old house, full of quaint cupboards and dusky corners, cheery and acute to the last, herself the oddest relic of a by-gone generation.

The singing in the old meeting-house was the most spirited part of the worship there, and attracted quite as many

auditors as the sermons. In fact, the choir probably represented most of the aspiration included in that little company. The leader was a man of much natural talent and force of character, whose love of music was a passion. He was the master of two or three singing-schools in that region, and managed to accomplish as much work in a week as several ordinary men. His sisters all had good voices and supplied treble and alto; but the best natural voice in the company belonged to the tenor, whose sweet, clear, ringing tones rose without effort above all others, and filled the little church with a music as genuine and free as a bird's. The quality of this voice was thoroughly individual, which the memory could retain without difficulty.

The instrumental accompaniment to this harmony was a big bass viol, which did ample justice to it. There was no lagging behind in the hand that swept those resonant strings. It did not accompany the voices so much as it led them. The precision of it on all occasions was something quite wonderful. Whether the tune were "Antioch," or "Old Hundred," or "Zion" or "Dennis," the twanging bow leaped along as if attention to time were the chief concern of mortal spirits.

On week-days the meeting-house had something half spectral about it. To peer through the greenish-hued window-panes at the shadowed deck, the empty aisles, and solemn choir-loft, gave one a weird, uncanny impression. Just behind the building, at the foot of the pasture-lot, blue violets grew in their season, and later wild lupines, both pink and blue. These flowers must have borrowed something from their neighborhood to the meeting-house, for they always seemed less cheerful and bright than other blossoms. If the day were declining, I snatched them hastily from their stems and ran to the top of the hill, where the sunlight fell more brightly and the birds sang with more careless freedom.

SATISFIED.

BY ELIZABETH R. GEORGE.

When with sigh of infant's content
I kneel, oh, wondrous moment, at His feet,
Life's day of labor and probation spent,
Heaven and its glorious fullness all complete;
When, 'mid the sudden glory of the place
I once have looked upon the Master's face,
I shall forget the pain, the bitter want
Of my weak nature, in itself so scant,
And, kneeling down with ecstasy so sweet,
Lo, I shall only kiss my Saviour's feet;
And though my spirit breathe no earthly word,
All heaven shall hear me as I praise the Lord.

A STORY FOR GIRLS.

BY ADELAIDE S. SEAVENY.

"Here's a letter for you, Philury."
"For me?" and Philura paused,
flat-iron in hand, as her father tossed
the tinted and monogrammed envelope
upon the ironing-table.

No wonder Philura was surprised,
for letters were rare at the Jackson
farm up among the Vermont hills. At
stated intervals Mrs. Jackson received
formal, precise notes from her only
son, who had married a Boston
merchant, but Philura herself had no
friends or acquaintances outside the
village.

"Well, why under the sun don't you
open it?" snapped her father, as he
stood waiting. "Don't be a ninny."
For Philura was critically examining
the envelope, hardly knowing at which
end to open the dainty thing.

"It's from Aunt Harriet," said Philura
glancing at the signature, and she
read aloud:—

DEAR NIECE: Though I have never
seen you, I yet cherish a kindly regard
for you for your mother's sake. Your
life must be very dull in your country
home, and I very well wish to ask you
to come to Boston and visit us. You
and my Sylvia are nearly of an age, and
it would, perhaps, be well for you to be
acquainted with each other. If
your mother can spare you, come the
first week in October.

HARRIET HOWARD.

"And this is the 20th of September.
O mother, can I go?" and Philura
paused, flushed and breathless.

"You must ask your pa. Harriet is
very kind, I'm sure."

"Kind!" growled Mr. Jackson.
"Rather a kind, isn't it, for her to be
sendin' invitations up here, when
she's always tried to forget you were
alive ever since you married me, Jo-
anna?"

"Now, William, don't! You know
Harriet moves in fine society in Boston,
and of course cannot be really in-
timate with us."

"Stuff! fine society! I'm as good as
her husband any day—and maybe
better."

"I don't care," said Mr. Jackson as
he stepped off the doorstep. "Your
ma can settle that."

Of course Mrs. Jackson was willing,
and she took great delight in furnish-
ing her daughter's wardrobe for the
projected Boston visit. She was a
mild little woman, mortally afraid of
her rough husband, whose will was
law. Philura was the only child, and
she had grown up like a weed in the
rank household soil. Her father was a
kindly but uneducated farmer, bent on
making money and looking out for a
good bargain. When the little girl
was born he was "mighty disappointed,"
as he expressed it, for "twas such a
pity she wasn't a boy." He had
brought up the child as if she were a
young colt, and now at the age of sev-

enteen, she was healthy and brown,
but unpolished and boydenish—"a
regular boy," her mother would some-
times sigh. She had been to the dis-
trict school of winters, but her father
didn't believe in educating girls. He
would say, when the mother feebly re-
monstrated: "Wall, I got along well
enough without an education, and
so'd you. What's the gal want of an
education? If it's nateral for a gal to
learn, she will. It's all nateral, and if
Philury's got it in her, she'll learn
enough without being kept at school
studyin' all sorts of rubbish." And so
Philura assisted in the spring planting,
raked hay and helped load the wagons
in the summer, and was very useful in
the fall harvesting, besides being initi-
ated into all household mysteries. However, Philura loved her books, and
it was "nateral" for her to learn.

But she was really going to Boston—
the ultimate Thule of the young girl's
dreams. She was very happy, the
only drawback being her slender ward-
robe which was in rather a shabby con-
dition. Her father wouldn't give her a
cent beyond her fare, and so Mrs.
Jackson, from her carefully-hoarded
egg and butter money, expended
enough to purchase a new dress and
other accessories. I think Philura was
never so well-dressed as, in her brown
delaine suit, and black straw hat with
its nodding poppy blossoms, she was
carried to the depot in the farm wagon.

What a novelty the ride to Boston
was to the unsophisticated girl! She
went into raptures at every mile, quite
regardless of her father's, "Don't be a
goose, Philury." For her father accom-
panied her, clad in the homespun
coat which had been his best for years.

At last, Boston. The dusk was fast
gathering when Philura stepped into
the great depot, holding fast her fa-
ther's hand. Her uncle was there to
meet her. Mr. J. was to return on the
next train, and Philura said good-by
with a great lump in her throat and
followed her uncle to the waiting hack.
Poor little girl! she was already homesick,
and after peering out into the
brilliantly-lighted streets awhile, she
leaned back and thought of her home
and the mother whom she had never
left before for a night.

Philura's reception at her aunt's was
cordial enough, but she was dimly con-
scious of not looking exactly right.
Sylvia's hair was pulled and crimped
in fluffy waves, and her dainty polka-
dotted skirt flared over her knees ex-
quisitely. Philura, in her old-fashioned
overskirt and blouse waist guileless of
trimming, looked like an overgrown
brown bug beside a butterfly.

"No matter, dear," said Sylvia
good-naturedly, as Philura looked du-
biously from herself to her cousin as
they stood in Sylvia's room before the
mirror. "I'll give you lots of finery to
fix up with to-morrow."

Such a round of gaiety and whirl of
excitement as our little country maiden
was in for the next few weeks! Why,
I couldn't tell you half. She went
everywhere—explored and enjoyed to
the full our beautiful city. But giddy
Sylvia's hand was not the one to lead
Philura. The poor child was bewil-
dered by the many "mustas" and
"mus," the "that isn't refined" and
the "this isn't stylish," that fell so
often from Sylvia's lips, and her feet
were straying over the threshold of in-
nocent maidenhood into that realm of
the city girl's fairy-land which has so
many pitfalls. She had never thought
anything about "beaux"—she was too
simple and young, you know. But Sylvia
already had a "gentleman" who came to the house five evenings
out of seven. He was a young, very
young, dapper clerk, who had smoked
himself into a bloodless state, but was
a great favorite among the girls of
Sylvia's set. "He's so polite, so
stylish," they all agreed—as if politeness
and style were the prime elements
of manhood. Philura's eyes often
grew wide with surprise at the dis-
closure of the many secrets which
Sylvia confided to her.

"But don't you love him?" she
asked one night, after Sylvia had told
her about a flirtation she had carried
on all the previous evening with a cer-
tain young man, and how jealous Harry
was.

"Love whom—Harry Sherwin?
Why, I hope you don't believe, little
Simplicity, that there is such a thing
as real love nowadays. I like to go
around, and I'd rather go with Harry
than with any of the others," and Sylvia
with a rippling laugh sounded through the
room.

"Well, Sylvia Howard, you ought
to be ashamed," said Philura with
cheeks aflame. "I wouldn't go around
with a young man, let him spend his
money for bouquets and presents, and
receive kisses and love-letters from
him as you do, if I didn't intend to
marry him. Mother says such trifling
with a young man often sends him to
ruin."

"Don't preach, Lurie, don't. I'm
only doing as the other girls do. Of
course, I wouldn't think of such a
thing as marrying Harry Sherwin. He
smokes too much, and is really too dis-
sipated. But I do like to have a good
time."

Philura's black eyes snapped with
honest indignation as she walked over
to the mantel. "You're a wicked
girl, Sylvia Howard. You acknowl-
edge yourself that Harry Sherwin is
dissipated, and yet you countenance
the dissipation by going around with
him. That is always the way, mother
says—young men will be reckless and
dissolute as long as pure, beautiful girls
can be had for the asking. A young
man says to himself, 'Well, I may as
well be gay for awhile and sow my
wild oats. By and by I will settle
down and marry some sweet young

girl, who will overlook my past follies
and try to reform me.' They are al-
ways sure, Sylvia, that the sweet
young girl will have them, and oh,
it makes my blood boil to think of it!
Why should not we demand the same
purity of heart and life from our hus-
bands that they ask of us? Why should
we bestow all 'our costly dower of
womanhood,' as some one says, upon a
man who is really not a man—only
the semblance of one—for the sake of
being married? I would a hundred
times rather live and die an old maid
than—"

"As you probably will, Philura,"
interrupted Sylvia angrily. "You've
wasted lots of breath for nothing. All
the girls in our set do as I do, and I'm
not going to be the odd one. You
can't find a fellow nowadays who
hasn't been a little wild, and I think
it's rather nice, on the whole; and so
pretty Sylvia sprang from the sofa as
she fell, proclaiming the arrival of
Harry Sherwin, sounded through the
hall. "As for you, Philura Jackson,
you're a spiteful, hateful girl, and I
shall be glad when you go home. I
know you don't believe half you have
said. You are only jealous of me."

Philura sat alone by the grate a long
while tearful and very grave. She had
been honest with her cousin. Sylvia's
words hurt her. Mrs. Jackson had
been very faithful and plain with her
daughter, and in some things Philura
was mature beyond her years. "I
will go home to-morrow," she resolved,
as she went to bed. "I have had a
nice time, but I am tired of city life—
this free and easy way of living. I
want my home and mother."

And home she went the very next day.

Shall I tell you, briefly, of the after
life of these two cousins?

Take the cars from the Albany depot
some day and come out to this little vil-
lage among the farms of western Mas-
sachusetts. Come up over the hill and
look into the window of the Methodist
parsonage. All is cheery and bright
in the warm firelight. Two children
are playing on the floor and a tiny
baby is slumbering in the cradle.

"Isn't it most time for papa?" asks
little Fred.

"Yes, dear, very soon."
"Oh, he's coming now!" and the
children make a grand rush for papa,
who gently places them one side while
he clasps his wife in his arms and says,
"God bless my darling Philura!" Can
it be our Philura? Yes; and there is
a whole world of love and trust in her
voice as she talks with her husband.
Philura Jackson has made a true mar-
riage, and the husband and wife are
one flesh, both working together for
God and the uplifting of humanity.

But come away from these breezy
hill-tops, come away, even, from the
bright, the beautiful part of dear old
Boston, and walk through this narrow,
tenement-lined street. On the fourth
floor of a dilapidated building, in a
little dirty room, lies a faded woman
on an old straw bed. She is all
wasted, and her hollow cheek betrays
the dreadful disease, consumption. Do
you recognize Sylvia Howard? Hardly.
The sweet, girlish beauty is all
gone, and her life is almost done.
Yes, she married Harry Sherwin, after
all, and instead of her lifting him up, he
dragged her down, down, to his own
level, regarding her as

"Something better than his dog, a little
dearer than his horse."

Girl readers of the HERALD, you who
look out from your pleasant homes
with innocent, trusting eyes into the
future that awaits you, beware! De-
mand from the young man who would
make you his wife purity of heart and
of life. He expects this of you, why
should you not ask the same in return?
Do not marry a man in the hope of re-
forming him, or simply for the sake of
a home. No woman has a right to do
that. Moreover, love no man whom
you cannot honor with all your heart
—a true knight, sans peur, sans re-
proche.

IN THE RAIN.

Down the long street the little Jane,
Dressed and shod, walked through the rain,
The great umbrellas hiding
Her bronze-brown eyes and golden hair;
And yet she won, though very fair,
Less praise than scorn and chiding.

For Jane was but a pauper child,
Who yet had wayward been and wild,
A "sore-head" she was called,
Since she must toil the livelong day,
She mingled all her toil with play,
Nor cared to earn her bread.

She entered at the great church door,
No one had entered there before
That rainy Sabbath-day;
And little Jane sat all alone;
The organ played in softest tone;
She wondered it should play

For only her. The minister
For prayer and psalm for only her!
She saw no other there,
He meant it all for me!" she thought;
"None else is here! I'm sure I ought
To join in hearty prayer."

"Christ died for all! He died for you!"
O blessed Lord! She put me in mind of
"Accept your Lord," he said,
Jane heard with ever new surprise,
Tears overflowed her beautiful eyes,
She bowed her humble head.

"I do accept Him! Take Thou me,
O blessed Lord! Since I am here,
That even I may come!
I'll try henceforth to be so good,
I've been so wayward and so rude,
So wild and troublesome!"

The service o'er, she walked again
"Neath the umbrella through the rain,
With holy joy more fair,
"Since I am here and He is mine,
My life will be His care!"
My words will be His care!"

She thought with gladness, "He will be
Father and mother, both, to me
Who lacked them both before!"
She trusted well, and not in vain;
She walked with thought, and care, and pain,
She walked alone no more.

Her bronze-brown eyes are dim with age,
They scarce can read the sacred page,
Her golden locks are gray;
She counts no day of all her life,
As happy mother, happy wife,
Above that Sabbath day.

—Christian Weekly.

OUR BOYS AND GIRLS.

"MA'S GRAVE WILL GET LOST."

A boy, not over eleven years old,
whose pinched face betrayed hunger,
and whose clothing could scarcely be
called by the name, dropped into a car-
penter shop on Grand River avenue,
the other day, and after much hesita-
tion, explained to the foreman:—

"We want to get a grave-board for
ma. She died last winter, and the
graves are so thick that we can't hard-
ly find hers no more. We went up last
Sunday, and came near not finding it.
We thought we'd get a grave-board so
we wouldn't lose the grave. When we
thought we'd lost it, Jack he cried, and
Bud he cried, and my chin trembled
so I could hardly talk."

"Where is your father?" asked the
carpenter.

"Oh, he's home, but never goes up
there with us, and we can't tell him ma
about the board. I guess he hated ma,
for he wasn't home when she died, and
he wouldn't buy no coffin nor nothing.
Sometimes when we are sittin' on the
doorstep talking about her, and Jack
and Bud are cryin', and I'm remember-
ing how she kissed us all afore she died,
he says we'd better quit that or we'll
get what's bad for us. But we sleep up
stairs, and we talk and cry in the dark
all we want to. How much will the
board be?"

The carpenter selected something fit
for the purpose, and asked,

"Who will put it up at the grave?"
"We'll take it up on our cart," re-
plied the boy, "and I guess the grave-
yard man will help us put it up."

"You want the name painted on,
don't you?"
"Yes, sir, we want the board white,
and then we want you to paint on that,
that she was our ma, and that she was
forty-nine years old, and that she died
on the 23 of November, and that she's
gone to heaven, and that she was one
of the best mothers ever was, and that
we are going to be good all our lives,
and go up where she is when we die.
How much will it cost, sir?"

"How much have you got?"
"Well," said the boy, as he brought
out a little calico bag and emptied the
contents on the bench, "Bud drew the
baby for the woman next door, and
earned twenty cents; Jack, he weeded
the garden and earned forty cents, and
he found five cents in the road; I run
of errands and made kites and fixed a
boy's cart and helped carry some apples
into a store, and I earned sixty-five
cents. All that makes 130 cents, sir,
and pa don't know we've got it, 'cause
we kept it hid in the ground under a
stone."

The carpenter meant to be liberal,
but he said:—
"A grave-board will cost at least \$3."
The lad looked from his little store of
meats to the carpenter and back, real-
ized how many weary weeks had passed
since the first penny was earned and
saved, and suddenly walked out:—
"Then we can't never, never buy
one, and ma's grave will get lost."

But he left the shop with tears of
gladness in his eyes, and when he re-
turned yesterday little Bud and Jack
were with him, and they had a cart.
There was not only a head-board, but
one for the foot of the grave as well, and
painter and carpenter had done their
work with full hearts, and done it well.
Ere this the mother's grave has been
marked, and when night comes the
three motherless ones will cuddle close
together and whisper their gratitude
that it cannot be lost to them even in
the storms and drifts of winter. —
Detroit Free Press.

FUN AND FACT.

.... It has been asked: "When rain falls,
does it ever get up again?" Of course it
does, in dew time.

.... Which is the more powerful, the earth
or the sea? The sea, of course—it has such
a lot of muscles.

Child: "I couldn't live if I should
have the fever." Mother: "Why not?"
Child: "Because I'm so little, there
wouldn't be room for the fever to turn."

.... A very fat man sent an order to the
office for two seats in the coach for himself.
The clerk engaged him one seat outside and
the other inside.

The kingdom that I seek,
Is Thine; so let the way
That leads to it be also Thine,
Else I shall surely stray.
Smooth let it be, or rough;
It still will be the best;
Winning or straight, it matters not;
It leads me to Thy rest!

.... Some one has beautifully said that
"sincerity is speaking as we think, believing
as we pretend, acting as we profess, per-
forming as we promise, and being as we
appear."

.... "What business is your father in, my
child?" "Sure and I do no. He is a dic-
tator, or an agitator, or a speculator—a
tutor of some kind, anyway."

.... "Sir," said a lady to a would-be wag,
"your jokes always put me in mind of
ball." "Of a ball, madam! Why so, pray?"
"Because they never have any point."

.... It is well to look at both sides of a
fan. On a "heated" Sunday in Philadel-
phia, recently, the minister was fanning
himself vigorously. He did not see (but
the congregation did) that the reverse of
his fan bore the inscription, "Buy Bogle's
Butters."

.... The Christian shines unconsciously
—as the jewel sparkles, as the bird sings.
Self-forgetfulness is the first sign that we
are doing work for the Lord above us. A
life in which the will of the Father is all in
all, will accomplish good on the right hand
and on the left, and keep no record.

TO-DAY.
Lo here hath been dawning
Another blue day;
Think, wilt thou let it
Slip useless away?
Out of eternity
This new day is born;

Into eternity
At night will return.
Behold it aforesaid
No eye ever did;
So soon it forever
From all eyes is hid.
Here hath been dawning
Another blue day;
Think, wilt thou let it
Slip useless away?

.... A little boy was shown the picture of
the martyrs thrown to the lions. He started
at the sight, shouting: "Ma! O Ma!
Just look at that poor little lion way behind
there. He won't get any."

.... A lady lecturer on "The Poetry of the
Future," announced that "the epic of the
coming poet will throw with the pulse of the
cosmos." That sounds good; wonder what
it means.

